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Weather Forecast

Today

High:81
Low:57

Saturday

High:76
Low:46

Sunday

High:67
Low:39

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post



Post-wide yard sale
Tomorrow the families of Fort Riley are going to be cleaning out their closets and making a little extra cash, as Fort Riley hosts its annual post-wide yard sale 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

See Page 9

September 26, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 46, No. 37

Fort Riley school wins national award



Christine Rust's third grade class at Custer Hill Elementary discusses their fictional story of the week. The students are assigned a different story each week for guided reading.

Custer Hill Elementary boasts top performance, high scores

By Ryan D. Wood
Staff Writer

Using teamwork, innovation and old-fashioned hard work, the teachers and staff of Custer Hill Elementary School have achieved nationwide recognition as one of the top performing schools in the country and in Kansas.

The school will soon receive the "No Child Left Behind" Blue Ribbon Award, which can be given to schools who either test in the top ten percent on the state assessment tests or who show significant improvement in test scores in a school that has 40 percent or more of the students on the free or reduced lunch program, said

Custer Hill Elementary Principal Sierra Jackson.

"I think that we qualified under both of the categories," said Jackson. "Looking at our data, and what we know about what we have done, we qualified because we actually have more than 40 percent of our kids on free or reduced lunch, and they have achieved the high levels, and we are performing in the top 10 percent on the state assessments."

According to Jackson, out of all elementary, middle and secondary schools in the country combined, 215 schools have been picked to receive the award. Four of the schools are in Kansas.

Jackson credits a tight-knit staff and strong district support for her school's

success.

"One thing that I love about this staff is that they really do work as a team, and they are excellent teachers," said Jackson. "There are a lot of excellent teachers in this district and on this base. We are really looking at what we are doing to make sure that it is really making a difference. They look at test scores and see that three kids aren't making it, then they ask, 'What are we doing that we can change so those kids can make it?'"

Jackson also gave high praise to the students and all the work they went to in achieving the scores necessary to get this award.

"The kids work hard," said Jackson. "We explain to them how important this is

and they want to do good on it. They put in a lot of time. They will stay after school, they come before school, they are understanding about how important that it is to us and to the school and they are working hard."

Parental support was also a strong help in the schools push to succeed. Jackson noted the parents who brought their children in early and picked them up late so that they could participate in tutoring, math academies and other academically challenging programs.

Even with the current high number of deployments, Jackson has faith in the students and parents of Custer Hill Elementary.

See Custer Hill Page 2

New access cards essential

By Ryan D. Wood
Staff Writer

On Oct. 1, or soon thereafter, soldiers and civilians working on Fort Riley computers will need the new Common Access Card to use military computer networks.

According to Robert Windham, director of MEO operations, as part of a larger G6/Chief Information Officer Army initiative, it is the intent that every soldier, civilian or contractor have a CAC and a CAC reader installed on their PC in order to have full access to Army networks.

"The reader will enable the user to log onto the network and to digitally 'sign' their e-mail messages," said Windham. "Users will be able to read e-mail messages that have been digitally signed by others, but will not be able to respond to or forward the e-mail without the use of their own CAC reader."

The new smart card technology in use in the CAC card is meant to increase efficiency, effectiveness and security and will be the standard for use in future access and identification systems and procedures, said Windham.

"In the IT arena, the technology in the card allows for the storage of public key infrastructure certificates that will allow for the

See Cards Page 3

Unauthorized access could mean citations

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Fort Riley became a controlled access installation soon after the events of Sept. 11, 2001. Since that time, entering Fort Riley through other than the authorized access points has been prohibited, and Fort Riley's commanding general has now issued a new policy that permits law enforcement personnel to issue citations to persons accessing the base through unauthorized access points.

Right now, there are seven authorized Access Control Points

on Fort Riley, which are easy to distinguish from unauthorized ones.

"An Access Control Point is a manned entry point to the installation where identification of all vehicle occupants is checked and vehicle passes are issued to persons visit-

ing and working on post," said Larry Duch, force protection officer, G3 Operations.

There are three types of ACP's: main, primary gates, and are all operated continuously.

Entering the installation through 12th Street, from Kansas Highway 18, is a secondary gate, as well as the commercial vehicle

of operation in accordance with the Department of the Army Blue-Print for Access Control," said Duch.

The hours of operation and gate designators are as follows:

Henry Drive, off I-70, is the installation's main gate; Huebner Drive, from Ogden and Trooper Drive, from Junction City, are primary gates, and are all operated continuously.

Entering the installation through 12th Street, from Kansas Highway 18, is a secondary gate, as well as the commercial vehicle

See Access Page 3

Raid nabs suspected attackers

By John S. Wollaston
3rd Brigade PAO

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Nearly two months ago, the soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, were in shock over the death of one of their own, 1st Lt. Jonathan Rozier. Rozier was killed in action at a traffic control point in the Abu-Gharib market area of Baghdad when a rocket-propelled grenade struck him in the back. Rozier died almost instantly and the attackers seemingly escaped undetected. Shortly after his memorial service, Col. Russ Gold, brigade commander, said in an interview, "I will use every resource available, and I will not stop until we capture the individuals responsible for this heinous crime."

During a recent daylight operation, Gold made good on his promise. Using precision timing and aggressive maneuvers, two tank platoons from 3rd Brigade's 1st Battalion, 13th Armor Regiment, a platoon from 70th Engineer Battalion, two companies from the 82nd Airborne Division and a military police platoon from the Connecticut Army National Guard, conducted a successful raid on a mosque and a nearby residence that resulted in the apprehension of those allegedly responsible for Rozier's death.

The raid that nabbed the alleged shooter and others was the payoff of almost two months of careful planning and reconnaissance that began before Rozier's memorial service was over. Using local informants in the Abu-Gharib area, the brigade gathered intelligence on the alleged attackers. After carefully confirming and re-checking intelligence and local sources, the plans were drawn up for the raid on the alleged shooters home and the mosque, which was being used as a meeting place. With AH-64 Apache attack helicopters and F-15 fighters circling overhead, the soldiers on the ground executed the raid to coincide with the conclusion of Friday prayers, when they knew the suspects would be at the mosque.

Shortly after the raid, Gold commented on the capture of Rozier's alleged killer.

"The individuals we captured represent what our soldiers face every day. The individuals are not soldiers, because soldiers have honor. They are common criminals, thugs and terrorists that Saddam Hussein released from all his prisons in January 2003, who have no honor or value for human life. I vowed to bring whoever were responsible for this heinous crime to justice, and that is just what we are doing."

"First Lt. Rozier represents all that is right in our society. Jon was a person of good character and he was a superb soldier and leader. He gave his life to stop worldwide terrorism, and he chose to fight the enemy here in Iraq so it would not spread to our home front as the 9-1-1 attacks did on the World Trade Center. Jon Rozier is a hero and will be sorely missed," Gold said.

The alleged shooter and the others suspected in helping to plot the attack are currently at a coalition detention facility.

Engineers take on Baghdad sewage system

By Chad D. Wilkerson
372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Soldiers from Company A, 70th Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Division, have taken to the streets to fix a long-neglected, faulty city sewage system.

In the Baghdad neighborhood of Berea, the engineers have been joining forces with local officials, compiling information and digging up sewer lines in preparation for overhauls that will follow in the coming months.

The sewage water standing in the streets and alleys of the neighborhood is an indication of the scale of the problem facing the U.S. Army and the citizens of Baghdad. Local residents even spoke about an increase in cases of hepatitis in the children in the area, attributed to the presence of sewage in the streets.

"We are currently working on a major project to restore the sewage system in Berea," said Capt. Eric R. Swenson, commander, Company A. "This part of the city is very low-lying with a high

water table, so we have our work cut out for us."

Even though the engineers are playing a major role in the reconstruction, the U.S. Army is focused on support.

"The Army's role is one of oversight," said Swenson. "Our stance is always to help the Iraqis help themselves. We help set and manage priorities."

A large portion of the existing sewage system needs to be replaced, a project the engineers will work on alongside the citizens of the community.

"Part of the problem is that the pipes are undersized," said Swenson. "This part of the city has grown quicker than its sewage infrastructure can handle. We are now trying to jet the pipes and re-establish flow."

Immediate plans include building a pump station that will help maintain sewage flow in the area, Swenson said.

"This mission lets leaders come down and get familiar with how the sewage system works," he said.

Although the engineers have

taken on a huge task, Swenson said that he and his soldiers are able to stay motivated because the people of Baghdad are depending on them for their health and well-being.



Soldiers from 1st Armored Division's 70th Engineer Battalion look over the standing water in the streets of a Baghdad neighborhood known as Berea. The streets have been flooded with sewage water for weeks.

372nd MPAD/Wilkerson



Fort Riley unit helps several Iraqi schools in need supplies

By Ryan D. Wood
Staff Writer

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, America showed its might and military strength. Now, with the rebuilding of Iraq under way, soldiers of 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery are learning to build hope as well as buildings.

Members of the unit have adopted a school in Iraq that specializes in helping children with Down Syndrome. The connection was quick for Lt. Col. Richard Bowyer, battalion commander, as his own son has Down Syndrome.

With a friendship born of common ground, Bowyer and school director, Sarahiah Mustafa, who started the school for her own Down Syndrome child, began to build up a program that the former Iraqi regime had swept under the rug.

After Bowyer contacted both his mother and wife back in the states, a program of donations and other assistance was started to assist the school.

"My husband got in touch with my mother-in-law and I, and we started getting clothes, toys and school supplies," said Kelly Bowyer, Lt. Col. Bowyer's wife.

"My mother-in-law's daughter is a dentist, and started sending dental supplies, and now it has branched out even more. My husband now has a group that has autism and another group that has general physical handicaps."

Support for the unit and its

goals of helping the various schools has grown on post with civilians and spouses of deployed soldiers donating clothes and other much needed goods the schools are in desperate need of.

"The wives in the unit are getting behind it and helping to get educational stuff together," said Bowyer. "I really didn't tell them about it because my heart was into it, and I didn't want to make them think that their hearts had to be into it. But, they came to me and asked how they could help."

Help has poured into the Bowyers and to the soldiers supporting the schools, and support

increased when President Bush mentioned Lt. Col. Boyer in a speech he gave at Fort Stewart, Ga. recently.

"One school in Baghdad is called the Hiba School," said Bush. "It was founded by a woman named Sarahiah, for children with Down Syndrome. The old regime gave the Hiba School no help. You see, Down Syndrome children were viewed as hopeless and useless... but now a unit of American soldiers has taken the Hiba School under its wing. They've been collecting donations from home to pay for supplies and clothing for the children and salaries for the teachers. The effort has been led by Lt. Col. Bowyer of the 1st Armored Division. He's got a special interest, you see, his own son, Samuel, has Down Syndrome."

Since the speech and the increase in interest and help, the

Bowyers have begun to change the request for donations to different items that the children still need.

"They have enough clothes now," said Bowyer, "but shoes, school supplies and maybe a little warmer clothing and toys are still needed."

Boyer sees the helping the school as a way to show the Iraqi people the positive side of America.

"With everything that is going on, there is a lot of anti-American sentiment," said Bowyer. "We need to have more of a involved, personal relationship. The act of giving should stop the hatred."

Bowyer also feels that the

Iraqis aren't the only ones who benefit from the building experience.

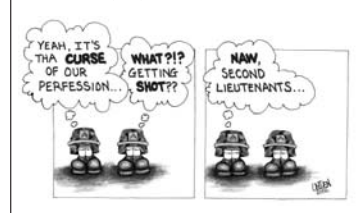
"They (soldiers) actually have civilians telling them about the bad people, and that relationship is just so important so soldiers can see them (Iraqis) as the good and wonderful people that they are, not the few people that are against us," said Bowyer. "If the negative was all you saw, you would grow to hate these people. Instead, they get to see the other side, the goodness and the love."

"We are all humans and we are all in this together," said Bowyer. "It's an Army of one, but it is also a world of one, and we've got to think of it as that."

"It's an Army of one, but it is also a world of one, and we've got to think of it as that."

—Kelly Bowyer
Military Spouse

Grunt By Wayne Uhdén



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Annual campaign starts soon

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Fort Riley's Directorate of Community Activities will kick off this year's annual Combined Federal Campaign at Rally Point Oct. 2, 1:30 p.m. The campaign will run Oct. 6 - Nov. 14.

Fort Riley has set a goal to receive \$150,000 in donations from soldiers and civilians during this year's campaign. "We want all commanders, sergeants major, directors, deputy directors and other key personnel to attend the kick-off," said Dori N. Farrow, CFC coordinator, DCA.

The money collected during the campaign is given to any number of human care organizations that the person donating chooses to give to.

"The Combined Federal Campaign is an annual fundraising effort that enables federal employees to make a single annual contribution to many human care organizations," said Farrow. "We help ourselves and our other federal employees by making it possible for these organizations to provide a wide range of service."

There will be refreshments served at the kick off after Col. Thomas Luebker, assistant division commander for support, gives a welcome speech.

"Col. Luebker will be giving the welcome speech, along with several other speakers. Also pre-



Combined Federal Campaign

sent will be several agencies from the local area that will have information to pass on," Farrow said.

"The agencies will provide information about their programs and why they need our support," she said. "Each unit and activity has a CFC representative who will be making personnel contact with everyone in their program to give them the opportunity to give to the campaign."

"There are several ways to make a contribution to CFC. You

may pay cash, write a check for the entire sum of your pledge or have your donation automatically deducted from your paycheck," Farrow said.

"The easiest way to make your contribution to CFC is through payroll deductions," she said. "The amount you specify will be withheld from your pay each month starting in January 2004."

Many of our civilian and military personnel have benefited from the services provided by the various non-profit human service agencies. "They do well for us and help keep us strong," said Farrow.

People can donate as much as they want, but there is a minimum amount for making a donation.

"The minimum amount you can direct to be withheld from your pay is \$2 per month for military personnel and \$1 per pay period for federal civilian employees," said Farrow. "The minimum annual deduction is \$24 for military and \$26 for civilians," she said.

To make a donation through CFC, contact your unit CFC representative.

Talk Around Town

"What do you believe is the most important leadership trait?"



"The most important leadership trait is leading by example."



"I think the most important leadership trait is getting along well with others and being able to work well with people."



"The most important leadership trait is being able to make sacrifices and doing whatever it takes to accomplish the mission."

Pfc. Jerry Guerrero
Troop D, 4th Cavalry

Julie Marty
Military Dependent

Sgt. Eric Thornbrush
Troop D, 4th Cavalry

Access

continued from page 1

access gate, and its hours of operation are from 5 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily.

Estes Road, from old US 77, is a secondary gate, which is open for inbound traffic only 5:30 a.m. - 8 a.m. for Department of Defense registered vehicles only. Estes Road is open for outbound traffic 3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. during duty days only, and is closed on weekends, holidays and training holidays.

Rifle Range Road, from US 77, is also a secondary gate and is open for inbound traffic only 5:30 a.m. - 8 a.m. for DoD registered vehicles only. It is open for outbound traffic 3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., also only during duty days.

The last secondary gate, Grant Avenue, is currently closed to inbound traffic but is open for vehicles leaving post.

If someone finds themselves entering the post in an area other than those authorized, they should stop, go back the way they came and proceed to an authorized, manned access point, said Duch.

People should also understand that military police are constantly running patrols through areas identified as unauthorized access points, he added.

There are penalties for those who get caught entering the post illegally.

"Violators of the policy may be subjected to criminal prosecution or administrative action under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice," said Duch. "In addition, violators who are federal employees may be subject to administrative disciplinary action as deemed appropriate."

Military police are not the only ones who should be vigilant against an illegal entry to the post.

"People need to be vigilant and report security breaches whenever they see them," said Duch. "If someone sees an illegal entry, they should get as much detail about the vehicle and occupants as possible," he said.

"Color of vehicle is important, but the most important information is the license plate number and state.

Then, report the information to the PMO at 239-MPMP (6767)."

The security of Fort Riley is taken very seriously by the post.

"People may think that because they are in the middle of Kansas there is no threat to their safety," Duch said.

"Just remember, on Sept. 11, 2001, the folks in the World Trade Centers and all those airline passengers did not think there was a threat to their safety either," he said. "Access to the installation is not hard, and we invite people to come visit this historic post. But, we are serious about security and will do what we must to protect our most vital assets."

Cards

continued from page 1

digital signature of documents, encryption of information and establishment of secure internet sessions. Once fully fielded, DOD estimates that over four million cards will be in use," said Windham.

The electronic signature offers many improved security benefits to everyday users through increased security measures. "A digital signature is the product of a cryptographic system that is created when the owner of the private signing key uses that key to create a unique mark (signature) on an electronic document or file," said Windham. "Like a written signature, the purpose of a digital signature is to guarantee that the individual sending the message really is who he or she claims to be."

New cards are available at the ID card/DEERS office, building 7808. For more information on how to get the new cards call, 239-5667.

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Briefs

Apple Day

It's that time of year. The Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley is preparing Apple Pies for this year's Apple Day Oct. 4. Presale Pies are available until today for \$7. Pies will also be sold at Apple Day. Order forms may be picked up or dropped off at 22A Sheridan Ave. on Main Post.

Volunteers are needed to help make the pies. To volunteer, call Joanne Gulotta, 784-4922.

Water System Flushing

Public Works will continue efforts to keep Fort Riley's water clear by flushing of the water distribution system starting Oct. 6. The schedule for flushing is: Oct. 6 - Main Post/ Whiteside areas, Oct. 7 - Custer Hill Housing areas, Oct. 8 - Custer Hill and troop area, Oct. 9 - Custer Hill motor pool areas and Oct. 10 - Camp Forsyth, Camp Funston and Marshall Army Air Field areas.

Flushing of the water mains will begin at 8 a.m. and will continue until complete. Occupants of the affected area must refrain from use of hot water during this period. To facilitate flushing, do not park directly across from fire hydrants.

When flushing of an area is complete, area occupants should clear the water lines in their quarters. This is accomplished by opening all cold water faucets and letting them run until the water runs clear. The hot water faucets should be opened next to clear any remaining discoloration. The time required for the water to

clear depends on the amount of water used during the flushing. If the water does not clear up after 30 minutes, the Service Order Desk, 239-0900, should be notified.

Questions concerning the flushing should be addressed to Don Wainwright, Public Works, 239-3908, during normal working hours.

Love and Logic

'Becoming a love and logic parent' classes in parenting are designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately.

The classes will be taught Oct. 2, 9, 16 and 30 and Nov. 6 and 13. No class will be held Oct. 23. The classes are 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Soldier and Family Support Center, building 7264. Call 239-9435 for more information. The course is free and there is free childcare with advance reservations.

Holiday Craft Fair

Bring your family to the Holiday House, Gifts and Things Fall Craft Fair for food, fun and entertainment Nov. 15, at Marshall Air Field, Hangar 817. If you are interested in a booth or need more information, contact Sherri Weber, 537-7781.

Retiree Appreciation Day

The Fort Riley Annual Retiree Appreciation Day will be held Oct. 24, at the Manhattan Holiday Inn/Holidome, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Retirees are invited to attend this event to receive the latest information on retiree benefits and activities at Fort Riley.

There will be a Health Fair from 1 - 3:30 p.m. conducted by Irwin Army Hospital. Col. (retired) John W. Radke, chief, Army Retirement Services, will be the guest speaker. Brig. Gen. Dennis E. Hardy, commander, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, will welcome the retirees.

AAFES Council

The next AAFES Council Meeting will be Nov. 12, 9:30 a.m. at the AAFES conference room, building 222.

EFMP Fall Festival

Exceptional Families Member Program families will be gathering for "A Trip To The Pumpkin Patch." Each family will get a pumpkin to decorate. Everyone wear your favorite or scariest Halloween outfit. It will be held at the Soldier Family Support Center, building 7264, Oct. 25, 10 a.m. - noon.

Call the EFMP office, 239-9435, to R.S.V.P. by Oct. 17.

Environmental Training

An Environmental Team Training class will be held Oct. 6 - 7. The refresher will be held Oct. 8. A two-hour asbestos class is available on request for Oct. 9. For enrollment, call 239-2334 or 239-0446.

There will also be a Supervisor Safety Course Oct. 16.

Zig Ziglar Seminar

A Zig Ziglar Seminar will be held Oct. 22, at Barlow Theater. The first session will be 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and a second session will be held 1:30 - 5:30 p.m. The seminar is open to all Fort Riley civilian employees.

Warrant Officer Recruiting

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated soldiers to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties, if you qualify. Soldiers with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team, www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or DSN: 536-0484 or 536-0458.

School Surveys

Parents of student in Geary County USD 475 received a Federal Impact Aid Survey Form recently.

The form is for students attending a public school in Junction City, Fort Riley, Milford or Grandview Plaza. Survey forms are sent home with elementary students. Forms for high school and middle school students were mailed to the parents.

The purpose of the survey is to provide official verification and record of all students whose parents are federally connected on the district's official enrollment counting date. Parents are asked to complete, sign and return the forms to their child's school as soon as possible.

1st BCT Zoo Trip

Soldiers and family members of the 1st Brigade Combat Team are invited to Family Day at Sunset Zoo, Manhattan, Sunday, 1 - 5 p.m. Discounted admission is \$2 for adults; \$1 for children 3 - 12 and free for children under 3. RSVP to your company/battery Family Readiness Group Leader. If you don't know your FRG Leader, call the Soldier and Family Support Center, 239-9435. You are responsible for your own transportation to the zoo. Directions to the zoo can be obtained from your FRG Leader.

OCSC Basket Auction

Please join OCSC for their October Dinner and Annual Basket Auction at the Holidome, Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m. The theme is a birthday party to celebrate Fort Riley's 150th birthday and the 50th OCSC anniversary. A magician will provide entertainment and the menu will include mixed greens with toppings, penne pasta salad, Kansas roast beef, fried chicken, mashed potato and country gravy, corn O'Brien, and the desert will be birthday cake. Tea, coffee and water will also be included. The cost of the dinner is \$15. A selection of themed baskets put together by units and organizations across the post, as well as local businesses, will be on the auction block. Jay Brown will be the auctioneer.

Reservations are required for the dinner. You should RSVP to Connie Taylor, 784-5111, by Oct. 8.

Childcare is available at

ASYMCA, Junction City. Availability is on a first come, first served basis. For information on childcare or to make a reservation, call Heather Spencer, 784-2245 by Oct. 8.

Barlow Theater

Tonight:

7 p.m.
Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (PG)

Saturday:

7 p.m.
Grind (PG-13)

Sunday:

7 p.m.
Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (PG)

Thursday:

7 p.m.
Marci X (R)

Ticket prices:
Adults - \$3
Children - \$1.50

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More Briefs

Positive Behaviors Workshop

Would you like to learn how to deal with acting out behaviors using positive redirection? Do you deal with challenging behaviors? Would you like to develop an understanding of Neurological Disorders? A workshop presented by Lee Stickle, M.S. Ed., Autism Technical Assistance from the Neurological Disability Support Project, Department of Special Education in Kansas City, will be Thursday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Morris Hill Elementary School. Childcare will be provided. Please RSVP to the EFMP office by Wednesday, 239-9435.

Hispanic Heritage

The Division Equal Opportunity Office has rescheduled Fort Riley's celebration of Hispanic-American History Month Oct. 15, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Morris Hill Chapel. The free program is open to all soldiers, their families and civilian employees. It will highlight and honor the struggles, accomplishments and ongoing essential contributions made by Hispanics in our country. For information, call 239-2928.

Spouses of Deployed Soldiers

Is your spouse deployed? Do you need a break? Don't stay home alone. Come out and join other family members for a few hours of fun, support and sharing. The Family Readiness Program sponsors a weekly activity day for spouses of deployed soldiers every Monday. The program is

held at the Soldier and Family Support Center, building 7264. Noon - 3 p.m. There will be a different activity each week. Activities range from arts and crafts to workshops and guest speakers, games and open discussions to cooking classes. A support group lead by licensed social workers is held on the third Monday of each month. Lite refreshments will also be provided.

Child and Youth Services offers free childcare for parents attending the program. Childcare is available for children 6 weeks to 5-years-old. You must bring the child's shot records, but a snack is provided. Parent must stay in the center.

Volunteers are needed who would like to share their talents with a class. For additional information, contact Sonya Brown, Family Readiness Center coordinator, 239-9435

FRG Meeting

There will be a Family Readiness Group Advisors and Leaders Business and Networking Meeting Oct. 8, 9 a.m. - noon.

The agenda includes: Effective FRG Leadership - Communication & Conflict Resolution, Money Matters - Fund Raising and Financial Management for the FRG, Networking - Good Ideas & Success Stories, FRG Checklist - Are we doing it Right and Family Advocacy Program - Strategies for Coping During Deployment - Helping yourself and your FRG members.

For additional information, contact Sonya Brown, Family Readiness Center coordinator, 239-9435.

Car Wash

Club Beyond is having a car wash tomorrow at St. Mary's Chapel. For information, call 239-3230.

Retirement

The retirement ceremony for Brig. Gen. David Gross has been rescheduled for Oct. 31, 10 a.m. as a Victory Honor formation at Cavalry Parade Field. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be conducted at Hanger 817.

Small Business Seminar

Fort Riley University Army Career and Alumni Program will sponsor a seminar for new and existing small businesses presented by the Small Business Administration. The seminar is Oct. 10, 9 a.m. - noon at the ACAP Center classroom, building 210, room 7 in the Personnel Processing Center, Main Post. This entire seminar is free. Reserve your seat by contacting the ACAP Center, 239-2278 or 239-2248, or e-mail acap@riley.army.mil

Mail Training

An Official Mail training class will be offered Oct. 3, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., building 319, CPAC. An Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations class will be offered Wednesday and Oct. 15, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., building 319, CPAC. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 for enrollment.

Heating

The heating systems are scheduled to be turned on starting Oct. 6 in the following order: barracks, BOQ's and BEQ's, 8000 area, community buildings, administrative buildings, dining facilities and motor pools. The heating and cooling systems in chapels, child development, medical and dental buildings will be maintained as appropriate.

Family housing occupants control their own heat and air conditioning systems as desired. The authorized temperature for the heating season is 65-70 degrees.

PWOC

The Protestant Woman of the Chapel have begun with their weekly meetings. There are openings still left in some classes. The

meetings are at Morris Hill Chapel every Tuesday, 9 a.m. They also meet on Thursday, 7 p.m., at the Chapel. Free childcare is available. If you are interested and would like more information, contact Juli Kelly, 784-8333.

Soldier Show

The Army Community and Family Support Center is currently seeking performers and technicians for the 2004 Army Soldier Show. All application packets must be submitted by Nov. 15. For more information about the application packet, call 239-8147 or 239-2179.

CFC Campaign

The 2003 Fort Riley Area Combined Federal Campaign Kickoff Ceremony will be conducted Thursday, 1:30 p.m., at Rally Point. This years campaign will run Oct. 6 - Nov. 14.

Thrift Shop

The Fort Riley Thrift Shop has a large selection of previously owned articles, from clothing to house wares to furniture. Come see the latest consignment and donation items to include fall

décor and Halloween costumes. Visit building 267, Stuart Avenue (next to the stables) Tuesday - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., and the first Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Consignor-Customer Appreciation Day is Oct. 4.

Items for consignment are accepted on Tuesdays; donations are accepted everyday.

For more information on needed items or to schedule a pickup for large items, call 784-3874

SAEDA Classes

The Fort Riley director of security held the required Subversion and Espionage Directed Against the U.S. Army classes this week at the Patton Hall auditorium, building 200. This is required training for all soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians. The times for classes today are 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Shoppe

The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

DAILY UNION
1 x 5"
Black Only
Renaissance Fair/trade out

KANSAS WIRELESS
2 x 5"
Black Only
2K5, KS WIRELESS SEPTEMBER

PRAIRIE HANG CYCLE &
LEATHER,
1 x 1.5"
Black Only
Prairie Hang 9/03

ENVISION
1 x 4"
Black Only
envision

GRID- ARMED FORCES COMM
3 x 10"
Black Only
#377246 & 377247/Staying Within

DPCA
3 x 7"
Black Only
fall open house



Wear-out date for gray PTs approaches

Army News Service

Beginning Oct. 1 the Army's old, gray physical fitness uniform will no longer be authorized, and all Soldiers must own the improved PT uniform, which hit the shelves three years ago.

The decision to put soldiers in a uniform that was lighter, washes better and sharper looking was made in 1999 by retired Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, former Chief of Staff of the Army.

Soldiers were given a grace period of more than three years to purchase the new Improved Physical Fitness Uniform, but some are still scurrying to the Military Clothing Sales Store to purchase the five-piece ensemble.

"I have members of my squad who still have to purchase the new PTs," said Pfc. Brian Knolen from Fort McPherson, Ga. However, Knolen doesn't have to worry about meeting the deadline. He is among the soldiers who entered the Army after May 2000, and

was issued the uniform after graduating from Initial Entry Training.

Gholston, the store manager at Fort McPherson.



Post-Beltman

New PT uniforms a must by Oct. 1.

but I haven't seen an increase in sales," said Estella new PTs, and we've been helping to get the word out," said Savan-

A local store manager at Fort Belvoir, Va., said she didn't expect to see more purchases and didn't order extra to meet an increased demand. "Since 2001, my store has a ready-to-go inventory of the new uniform, but I haven't heard when," said a specialist from Fort Riley. "I don't have anything to worry about though because I've been wearing the new uniform for over a year."

"I know that the cut-off is approaching, but I haven't heard when," said a specialist from Fort Riley. "I don't have anything to worry about though because I've been wearing the new uniform for over a year."

The IPFU includes a t-shirt, long sleeve shirt, jacket, pants and shorts. The suit costs almost double the old uniform that was first issued to soldiers in 1986. The total cost is about \$140, according to a price list on the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web page.

Dreadnaughts complete NTC Rotation

By Daniel R. Eakins

2nd Battalion, 34th Armor

The Dreadnaughts of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor have successfully completed rotation 03-09 at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif. Having deployed to NTC on three weeks notice, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor performed Reception, Staging, Onward movement and Integration beginning Sept. 2, as the first group of soldiers touched the ground in California.

Once there, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor entered the fictional Republic of Sonoma and had to face training versions of situations U.S. soldiers have to face in real world missions such as those in Iraq. While in the Rotational Unit Bivouac Area of Fort Irwin, soldiers participating in RSOI activities had to deal with civilian protests, media interviews and the occasional SCUD missile attack. During this training, the soldiers learned to do maintenance while wearing chemical protective masks and suits.

The heat was another challenge the soldiers faced. Temperatures during the day were often 100 degrees or more.

"Don't underestimate the desert, it will mess you up," said Pvt. William J. Hammer, Dreadnaught 7 driver. "Drink lots of water unless you want an IV stuck in you," he added.

While overcoming challenges, the soldiers continued training on their primary mission, to take the battalion to war and win the battle. To this end, the battalion participated in lanes training, a defensive mission and two attack missions. It started when the battalion received the mission, began the military decision making process and began working together to hammer out a plan. "It was pretty cool to see the planning process in action," said Pfc. Jamal D. Dorsey, Dreadnaught 4 driver.

Once the plan was developed, the information was passed to the company commanders and platoon leaders to execute. "It showed how important it is to be organized and work as a team," said Hammer.

In the end, the soldiers of 2nd Bn., 34th Armor learned how important their jobs are and that each soldier has a role to play if a mission is going to be successful. It also helped the soldiers to become more familiar with what their jobs mean and how they are executed in a combat environment.

"I learned a lot that will make me a better soldier if we go to war," said Pfc. Daniel D. Zakopyko, five-ton driver with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor.

Veterans Administration seeking former POWs

The Department of Veterans Affairs wants former prisoners of war who aren't using VA benefits to contact the department to find out if they may be eligible for disability compensation and other services.

More than 23,000 former prisoners of war already receive compensation from VA.

This year, the department mailed information about benefits to another 4,700 known ex-POWs not on its rolls. However, VA estimates it does not have an address for as many as 11,000 more for-

mer POWs.

The VA is asking former POWs not receiving benefits who did not receive a VA letter recently to call the department, 1-800-827-1000.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi said VA has expanded policies to cover increasing numbers of former POWs as new illnesses have been found related to captivity.

The administration currently is pressing to get even more compensation and medical care benefits for former POWs.

"These veterans sacrificed for

their country in time of war, and it's the nation's turn to serve them, to help them determine if they are entitled to compensation, health care or other services," Principi said.

According to the VA, 90 percent of former POWs are veterans of World War II, and their service predates the use of Social Security numbers as a military service number. That, coupled with the decades that have elapsed since their service, makes it difficult for the department to track down those who have not opened a file

with VA in recent years, VA officials said.

The most recent expansion of VA benefits for former POWs was a July regulation that added cirrhosis of the liver to the list of diseases to which entitlement to disability compensation is presumed in former POWs.

Similar policies making it easier for former POWs to obtain compensation have been enacted for POWs detained for 30 days or more who develop specific illnesses.

-AFPS

KANSAS PRESS
2 x 2"
Black Only
Museum/9-23 & 9-26

CHURCH OF CHRIST
2 x 2"
Black Only
worship times TF

KANSAS PRESS
2 x 2"
Black Only
CPL/9-23 & 9-26

SUNFLOWER BANK- JC
3 x 3P
Black Only
3rdQ, 8 to 8 pm/28

FSU DIVISION OF CONTIN. EDUCAT
3 x 3P
Black Only
Anderson Hall Ad

BRIGGS-JEEP NISSAN
6 x 21.25"
Black Only
Briggs 9/25

Letters to the Front

"To Pfc. Kenneth R. Jones, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor. We are proud of you and all the soldiers who are fighting for our freedom. We love you!"- Alan Jones, military father

"To all the soldiers of 4th Bn., 1st Field Artillery: Know that we love you and miss you a whole lot. We can't wait to see you again. You are in our hearts and will always be there. I can't wait to hold you in my arms again, and the boys can't wait to play with their daddy again. We miss you, daddy! Take care of yourself and stay strong. By the way, I hope you have a happy birthday! We will be thinking of you."- Love, Anita, Danny, Darren and Mason

"To Sgt. Jeff Miller, 977th Military Police: Keep your head up high and stay strong. You have friends that miss you and can't wait to see you and talk to you again. Take care of yourself."- From one of your friends at Fort Riley

"To Sgt. Eugene Poindexter, 331st Signal Co.: Although it deeply saddens me to have you so far away, I find some comfort in knowing that you are not alone. I pray for you and for all the other

men and women who serve our country so bravely. May God protect you all and return you home safely to your loved ones."- Sincerely, Mrs. Corinne Parker, military mother, Gary, Ind.

"To Sgt. M. Staley: We love and support our military, but we hold a special place in our hearts for you. Be safe and strong, and know that you are in our thoughts everyday!"- The Galbreath family, Dowagiac, Mich.

"I would like to send my love and prayers to the family of Sgt. Mark A. Leathers. Cathy, Cody and Jessica, I love and miss you all. Hope to see you soon and check the mail."- Love, your sister, Cheri

"Tell our young men and women that we are behind them 100 percent and are looking forward to a quick and safe return home. God Bless the U.S.A. and God bless our troops."- Tim Perry, father of Pfc. James Perry, 1st Bn., 5th FA, Tehachapi, Calif.

"All the soldiers in Iraq, stay safe. I am looking for a soldier named Sgt. Manuel Rivera, 4th Bn., 1st Field Artillery. I am very worried about him. If you know who he is, please tell him Candace is worried, and to contact her in Nebraska. Everyone take care."- Candace Williams



Joint Combat Camera/Willingham

A soldier from 354th Civil Affairs Brigade picks up mail for his brigade at Baghdad International Airport.

"To Spc. Aasta J. Bernhard, 331st Sig. Co.: You are on my mind. All of you are in our hearts and prayers back in the states."- God Bless, Lauretta Hicks, military mother, Altoona, Pa.

"To my husband, Spc. Steve Pierson, 101st FSB, and all the other 101st soldiers: We are so very proud of you all. We miss you all and pray for your safe return. Steve, I miss you and love you very much. I am very proud of you. The kids miss their daddy. They said to take care of Uncle

Joe, too."- Sonya, Michael, Chelsea and Austin Pierson, military family, Alabama

"To Delta 4th Cav.: No words can ever describe how proud I am of you all. You were heroes before you left the states. May God bless each and every one of you and the families that love and support

you. My boyfriend, Sgt. Zachary Beaubier is among you all. I just want to tell him I love him and miss him. Be safe and strong and hurry home."- Samantha Bush, Edgar, Neb.

"We support all the troops. We are at your side and God on the other. Hang in there for each other and know that your loved ones' prayers are with you. You are very fine young woman and men. Thank you is not enough and nor the pay. I would like to see you all get paid more for all the training and hard times you have. You are in our hearts. To Pvt. James Webb, 4th Cav., we love you."- Jacqueline Gibbon, military mother, Kingsport, Tenn.

"I am very proud to tell you I served in Korea a long time ago. Our motto in the 21st Infantry regiment of the 24th Division was 'duty'. You are an important part of the tradition of the 24th. We, safely at home, really appreciate your service to our country. Keep up the good work and may God bless you."- Ed Graf, Army veteran, Oxford, Mich.

"To Sgt. Mark A. Leathers: Your family in Tennessee and Illinois are praying for your safe and speedy return. Please know that we are keeping in touch with your family and taking care of them. We love and miss you, and can't wait to see you when you get home! Go U.T.!"- Cheri D., Nashville, Tenn.

If you would like to send messages of support to the troops deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom, e-mail your message to afznpomr@riley.army.mil. Soldiers, please include your name, rank, unit and hometown. Military spouses and civilians, please include your name, job and hometown. You can also drop off a message at the Soldier and Family Support Center, building 7264, at the front desk.

COTTONWOOD THEATERS
1 x 3"
Black Only
1x3, COTTONWOOD SEPT
RUNNING

SALINA POWERS SPORTS
2 x 3.5"
Black Only
2x3.5, pu 9/5/03

USA- ARM FORCES COMM.
3 x 10"
Black Only
#361745

GRANDVIEW AUTOMOTIVE
3 x 4"
Black Only
3x4, FORT RILEY POSTADS

USA DISCOUNTERS
3 x 10.5"

RKD/Post-September



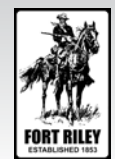
Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



In Step on Channel 2

6:30 a.m.In Step
8 a.m.In Step
NoonIn Step
6 p.m.In Step
10 p.m.In Step

Fort Riley Community



September 26, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

Visitors to Open House need to know rules for accessing post

By Steven Cooke
19th PAD

When Fort Riley has its annual Open House Oct. 4, it will be welcoming thousands of civilians from neighboring communities on post. There are certain rules and regulations everyone should be aware of.

Sgt. 1st Class Stacy Ferguson, operations noncommissioned officer in charge, Fort Riley Provost Marshal's Office, said one of the primary regulations visitors need to remember is the proper documentation required to enter Fort Riley.

"Drivers of every vehicle need to have a valid drivers license, proof of insurance and vehicle registration," said Ferguson.

"Everyone else in the vehicle needs to have some kind of valid proof of identification."

If a child under the age of 16 is with a parent, the child does not need identification, according to 1st Lt. Rod Galindo, platoon leader, 127th Field Artillery, the current unit providing access control for Fort Riley.

After all documents have been checked, each vehicle will be issued a one-day pass, said Ferguson. The pass should be displayed in the vehicle at all times, she said.

For vendors coming onto the post, Ferguson said they could receive their day pass in advance by calling Capt. Owen Ziegler, 239-2994.

Ferguson said she suggests all visitors to use the Trooper, Marshall Army Air Field or 12th Street gates Oct. 4. The Grant St. entrance will remain closed.

While on post, Ferguson wanted to remind visitors to be aware of speed limits, closed roads and designated parking areas.

Safety is a big concern said Ferguson, and their will be signs posted, as well as military police officers doing patrols on bikes, in vehicles and on foot. Ferguson said rules would be enforced.

One safety rule Ferguson pointed out was for motorcycle drivers.

"Kansas does not require helmets, but once on Fort Riley those on motorcycles must wear one, as well as reflectorized

vests," said Ferguson.

"Everyone on a federal installation falls under post rules and regulations," said Ferguson.

Parking will be available all around Cavalry Parade Field, said Ferguson. She also said good places to park would be in the parking lots of buildings 404, 210 and 214.

On the day of Open House, there will be several closed roads, she explained. Sheridan Avenue will be closed except for residents. Barry and Godfrey Avenues will also be closed, except for resident, up to Morris Avenue. Pleasanton Avenue will be blocked off all together.

Ferguson said there would be walking lanes for Open House patrons.

A variety of other services will be made available to Open House patrons, said Brad Carlton, supervisory operations and plans specialist, G3.

Carlton said there will be free water stations, first aid tents, a lost and found tent as well as a lost children tent. In addition, there will be portable toilets available throughout the area.

Carlton said the main thing visitors should know is Open House is a chance for Fort Riley to showcase to the public what it has to offer.

The Fort Riley Open House is Oct. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., on Cavalry Parade Field. Ferguson recommends visitors allow themselves ample time to get visitors passes and parking spots.



The obstacle course is a popular venue for children of all ages at Fort Riley's Open House. This year's event will be held Oct. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., at Cavalry Parade Field.

Open House offers fun, entertainment

By Bobby Miller
19th PAD

Come celebrate Fort Riley's 150th anniversary at the Apple Day/Open House celebration Oct. 4 on Fort Riley's Main Post.

Fort Riley's Open House is a chance for soldiers, family members and civilians to come together and celebrate the accomplishments and achievement of Fort Riley and its soldiers. This year's celebration has food and entertainment for everyone.

On the venue for this year's celebration is a series of events to include a petting zoo, remote radio broadcast, chapel tours and food sales.

The Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley is selling apple pies at the Custer House and proceeds will go toward scholarships. The Family Readiness Groups are selling food during the celebration as

well. Historical tours and a horse statue dedication will take place on the same day and will be an addition to the tradition of Fort Riley.

Keeping with tradition, soldiers will perform mounted cavalry assault demonstrations and re-enactments, which are supported by the Fort Riley Honor Guard at Cavalry Parade Field.

Children will have the opportunity to negotiate the "downed pilot" obstacle course where, if they are successful, they will earn a set of pilot's wings. This event will be sponsored by the 937th Engineer Group.

For those interested in seeing and learning about the tools of different trades, Public Works, the Provost Marshal's Office, Medical Command and 774th Explosive Ordnance Detachment will have displays showcasing their equipment. Public Works will have their fire and rescue equipment on hand and the PMO will have a Kansas

Highway Patrol rollover simulator, which demonstrates the importance of wearing a seatbelt. The PMO will also have their working dogs there and a Drug Awareness Resistance Education table. Soldiers from 774th EOD will be demonstrating their robotic demolition equipment.

The Public Affairs Office will have a Veterans' Tent located on Cavalry Parade Field, which is a walk through time highlighting the history of all the wars, WWII to present. The Veterans' Tent will include photos, video and living history veterans who will give passersby the most realistic taste of past conflicts.

Another attraction at this year's open house will be the Expo Tent, located in the center of Custer Parade Field. The tent will feature information from the local community and activities available on post.

If you are looking for good food, fun and entertainment, Fort Riley is the place to be Oct. 4.

Parents, students should be aware of truancy policies

By Kay Forman
School Liaison Officer

School has started for the kids of Fort Riley and the surrounding communities. This is an exciting time for many young people as they begin to focus their attention on learning. Soldiers who are sponsors or parents of school age children must be aware of policies that affect their child as a student.

Fort Riley and its administering school district, Unified School District 475, have a Memorandum of Agreement. This MOA sets the policy and procedures for handling truancy issues involving children of active duty sponsors who are attending school on Fort Riley or in the surrounding communities of Junction City, Grandview Plaza or Milford.

First, it's important to understand that this policy does not come into effect until a student has accumulated enough unexcused absences or incidents of tardiness to be considered truant. If sponsors and their children are aware of the rules and are following them, truancy should not become an issue. A student becomes truant until he or she accumulates three consecutive unexcused absences, has five unexcused absences in a semester, has seven unexcused absences in a school year or has excessive unexcused tardiness.

An unexcused absence is any absence that is not properly validated. In order to validate an absence, a parent must call the morning of the absence or provide the teacher with a note on the day his or her child returns to school.

The principal reserves the right to require a note from a doctor if a student has excessive absences for illness. If the principal requires this, and the parent does not comply, all additional absences, which the parent claims are due to illness, will be unexcused until a report from the doctor is received.

Leaving the classroom during the school day without communicating with the teacher is considered an unexcused absence as is a child staying home to baby-sit.

Upon the first instance of truancy, the principal will send a letter to the soldier/sponsor, advising that the student is truant. This is an opportunity for the family to address the issue without anyone in the military community or chain of command becoming involved. If the truancy issue is addressed at this point, meaning no further incidents of truancy or tardiness, further action against the student/family will not be necessary.

Upon the second instance of truancy, the principal will send a notice requesting assistance in the matter to the sponsor's company commander. The company commander will immediately meet with the sponsor, review the requirements for school attendance and command the soldier/sponsor to ensure that the child is back in school and remains enrolled and in regular attendance. If the commander decides that issues within the family require the assistance of outside support agencies, such as the Family Action Program on post, the commander has the authority to make appropriate referrals.

If a third instance of truancy occurs, the active duty sponsor and the student will be required to come before the Juvenile Review Board. The JRB consists of Fort Riley personnel who are selected by the command to adjudicate juvenile cases. The recommendations of the JRB will be adhered to and Family Advocacy Social Work Services can also assist, if necessary, in helping with situations requiring more extensive counseling or support services.

This policy allows Fort Riley to handle truancy issues within the Fort Riley military structure

See Truancy Page 10

Post-wide yard sale tomorrow

By Ryan D. Wood
Staff Writer

On Sept. 27, the families of Fort Riley are going to be cleaning out their closets and making a little extra cash, as Fort Riley hosts its biannual post-wide yard sale 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The post-wide yard sale allows anyone who wishes to hold a yard sale on post to do so without going through the registration that is usually required, said Betsy Young, community life officer.

"People come from all over to shop at Fort Riley for this event," said Young.

One stipulation for participants is limitations on Family Readiness Groups and fundraising.

"If FRG's want to use this as a fundraiser, they still need to contact the DCA for approval as a fundraiser," said Young.

For more information on the yard sale, contact Betsy Young, 239-9435, or the mayor for the housing area you need information about.

Get spooked on Fort Riley's annual Ghost Tour

By Christopher Selmek
19th PAD

There are ghosts on Fort Riley! If you don't believe, try looking into the black eyes of a man who fell to his death 100 years ago and saying, "I don't believe in ghosts."

When the room you are standing in suddenly fills with faintly luminous orbs of some intangible substance, display your reason and sophistication by shouting out for the world to hear, "I don't believe in ghosts."

If you still don't believe when a cavalry soldier from the 1890's, in full dress uniform, smiles and waves, then proceeds to walk through a wall and vanish before your very eyes, call after him, "I don't believe in ghosts."

It doesn't bother the ghosts if

you don't believe. But, has the choice already been ripped away from you? Once that first involuntary scream leaves your throat, your answer will never be the same again.

Ghost Tours will be held Oct. 26, and will include a historic tour of Main Post, focusing on the rich history of ghost stories on Fort Riley.

Tours will begin at the Custer House 4 - 8 p.m. and they will depart approximately every 15 minutes in groups of 25. Also, at 3 p.m. will be a daylight stroll tour at which candy will be passed out to the children at each of the five food stops.

"There are some historic things pointed out along the way, but primarily this tour focuses on the ghost stories," said Holly Garvin, organizer of this year's Ghost Tours.

According to Garvin, the tour has traditionally always been held on the Sunday before Halloween, setting the mood to bring out the true spirit of the Ghost Tours.

Stops along the tour include Custer House, Bacon Hall, the Public Affairs Office, Artillery Barracks, Building 500, Camp Forsythe, Old Trooper Monument, Cavalry Parade Field and many others, each with its own set of spooks and specters and their own role to play in Fort Riley's ghostly history.

"We're changing the tour a little this year, adding some stories and changing some locations," said Garvin. "For those who took the tour last year, it's not going to be the same thing, but it's still going to be entertaining for everyone."

The walking tour is scheduled to take around an hour and a half,

according to Garvin, though she is still planning to refine the exact order of the stops.

Also along the way will be five food booths where volunteers will be selling hot chocolate and cider among other Halloween delicacies.

Though a full month remains before the actual tour, much is left to be done concerning the setup of the food tents and the script readers for the tour.

"We are desperately in need of volunteers, either to lead the tours or be a storyteller at one of the buildings," Garvin said. "Volunteers are each given a script, so they don't need to make up their own words, and we have one training session."

Anyone wishing to volunteer for either position can call Garvin, 784-4941, or reach her via e-mail, holly.garvin@us.army.mil





Fort Riley looking for alternative energy, participating in wind study

Public Works Release

Have you noticed Fort Riley's new lawn art? You may have to look closely, but it can be found "towering" over the Camp Forsyth housing area. Fort Riley has a new met (meteorological) tower.

Fort Riley is participating in a Congressionally-mandated Department of Defense program to look at renewable energy sources at military installations. This is part of the effort to provide secure energy as well as using renewable or "green" energy. Green energy is energy that is produced without harm to the envi-

ronment from sources that can be replenished like solar and wind. You don't have to live in Kansas very long to know that Kansas has a good supply of wind. As a result, Fort Riley has been selected as a potential site for the development of wind energy.

The first step in the study to determine if Fort Riley can be used to generate wind power is to collect wind measurements over a period of time. In order to be usable for generating electricity, the wind at a site must be strong enough and steady (consistent).

The easiest way to collect the needed measurements is with a Met tower. The Met tower has

instruments on it to measure wind speed and direction. Often, winds in Kansas vary in speed and direction with the seasons. For this reason, the study will be collecting measurements for approximately one year in order to determine if Fort Riley would be able to generate its own wind energy. Even if Fort Riley does have sufficient wind resources for wind energy, the current and future missions of Fort Riley would have to be carefully considered before any development would take place.

Fort Riley and Public Works are doing what they can to provide a secure energy future. They committed to energy conservation

and preservation of the environment. And, they ask those who live and work at Fort Riley do their part as well.

Everyone plays a vital role in energy conservation at Fort Riley. Things that have an impact on

efforts to conserve energy everyday include common-sense measures such as turning off unused lights, turning off computer monitors when not in use and keeping thermostats set to maintain reasonable comfort levels. Thermo-

stat settings in quarters or buildings should be 76 - 78 degrees for cooling and 68 - 70 degrees for heating. Help save Fort Riley energy and secure its energy future.

Mother's Outreach needs volunteers

By Adam Clayton

K-State Intern

The Mother's Outreach program is looking for volunteers. LaTonya Adams, chairperson for Mother's Outreach, needs individuals to help deliver layettes to Fort Riley newborns.

"We deliver layettes to babies dismissed (born to) E-4 and below," said Kelly Sutton, American Red Cross station manager. "We're looking for five to six vol-

unteers, but we're not going to turn anyone away."

According to Debbi Freeman, American Red Cross worker, the layettes are care packages comprised of a receiving blanket, diapers, pacifier, bottles etc.

Up until now, Adams has single-handedly prepared and delivered the layettes to the hospitals, where the staff would then hand them out.

"We would like to put a more personal spin on it," said Sutton. Volunteers would be on call on

a weekly basis and would deliver layettes directly to the families. According to Sutton, it would require no more than one to two hours of work a week.

"This service is only available to babies born on Fort Riley," said Sutton.

Mother's Outreach has been sponsored by the American Red Cross for over 20 years and is funded solely by donations.

Anyone interested should contact the American Red Cross, 239-1887.

WILDCAT CREEK SPORTS CENTER

3 x 6"

Black Only

military appreciation

FAITH FURNITURE

3 x 13"

Black Only

New Ad 9/26

CANDLEWOOD HEALTH MART PHARMAC

2 x 2"

Black Only

general info

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD - AFC

3 x 10.5"

Black Only

#386201, 386202, 386203

Truancy continued from page 9

with no civilian court involvement, and thus avoids the student having a court record. This process puts the brunt of the responsibility on the active duty soldier/sponsor and on the student. One might ask, "Why are military kids being treated differently than the others?" The

answer is that the goal of any truancy policy is to get kids in school and keep them in school in the quickest, most effective manner possible.

Questions about truancy issues

should be addressed to an administrator where the student attends school or to Dr. Larry Dixon, Associate Superintendent, USD 475, 238-6184.



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



Fort Riley Sports

September 26, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 11

K-State Wildcats' winning streak ends against Marshall

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Marshall's Franklin Wallace ran for a game-high 112 yards on 17 carries to lead the Thundering Herd past the Wildcats last Saturday. Marshall (2-2) out rushed a Kansas State (4-1) team that was allowing only 62.5 yards per game rushing entering the contest to the tune of a 210-128 edge.

The Wildcats grabbed a 20-19 lead with 8:22 remaining in the fourth quarter on a Darren Sproles 12-yard touchdown run. The Thundering Herd then used a 31-yard kickoff return from Chris Royal to set up a game-winning

drive that culminated in a Graham Gochneaur three-yard touchdown pass to the tight end, Jason Rader. Rather than settle for a six-point lead, the Herd went up by seven after Gochneaur found Josh Davis at the goal line for a two-point conversion.

The 'Cats moved the ball down the field quite effectively on their ensuing possession, aided by a Jeff Schwinn 33-yard screen pass to Sproles on the three-yard line. On the following play, an illegal formation penalty on K-State pushed the Wildcats back five yards, to the seven, before Marshall's Dionte Wilson provided the coverage on a Schwinn pass to preserve the victory for Marshall.

The win marked the first time that Marshall has defeated a regular season opponent ranked in the Associated Press Top 25.

Marshall snapped the nation's fourth longest overall winning streaking of 10 games, held by Kansas State. Texas was the last opponent to upend the Wildcats, 17-14, on Oct. 19, 2002.

The Wildcats' 41 consecutive non-conference home game victories also ended with the Marshall loss. Kansas State last lost to a non-conference opponent at home against Northern Illinois, 37-20, on Sept. 23, 1989.

Some of the game milestones for the Wildcats were:

- Junior wide receiver Brian Casey made a career record 41-

yard reception in the first quarter against Marshall. Senior quarterback Jeff Schwinn tied a career-high 41-yard pass on the same play.

Senior cornerback Randy Jordan had his fifth career interception in the first quarter against Marshall. Kansas State has now made 34 interceptions in the last 23 games and 26 in the last 18 games. The Wildcats have had at least one interception in 14 of the last 18 games and in 4-of-5 games this season. Thus far, K-State has made six interceptions in 2003.

The Wildcats' next game is against Texas on Oct. 4 in Austin. Their next home game is Oct. 18, when they face Colorado.



Wildcats' Jeff Schwinn gains yardage during a game against Marshall University at KSU Stadium.

Fort Riley 10-Miler team ready

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Fort Riley's Army 10-miler team feels enthusiastic, optimistic and proud, and they are looking forward to their chance to represent the post Oct. 5, in Washington D.C.

The men and women of the team feel ready for the 10-mile run and believe they will better their previous times due to the support they have received from their units and the post.

"We have the support of the commanding general and the garrison commander. They have made a lot of tough decisions as to whether or not to send us, and they chose that, yes, this is what they want to do and have us represent Fort Riley. Now, we want to make sure that we represent them well," said Capt. Janine Taylor, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mech). "They are giving us the flexibility to train as needed so we can be competitive when we get there. They have coordinated and taken a lot of the details out of our hands so we can focus on running — they are setting us up for success."

Alongside Taylor at the race will be: Capt. Elizabeth Barnaby, Medical Activity, 1st Lt. Jesse Blanton, 82nd Medical Company, 1st Sgt. Colleen Shanklin, 3rd Brigade, 75th Division, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Adams, 3rd Bde, 75th Div. and Staff Sgt. Jeff Slimp, 6025th Garrison Support Unit.

The runners are going to the District of Columbia feeling proud and with an important reason to be there.

"We are going to Washington D.C. to represent Fort Riley. Every Army installation sends at least one team, and we'll be there, representing Fort Riley, competing against other Army teams from around the country," said Blanton.

Slimp also feels proud, for a reason of his own.

"This is a tremendous opportunity."

See 10-Miler Page 14



Garwin Kelly, Medical Activity, avoids having his flag stripped from him after coming down with an interception during a company level flag football game at Sturgis Stadium.

Flag football season kicks off with big win

By William Biles
Staff Writer

The 2003 Fort Riley Company Level Flag Football season began Tuesday with the Medical Activity team routing the Rear Detachment, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry's Iron Rangers, 40 - 6, in the league's opening game at Sturgis Stadium.

Having a mobile quarterback and a team full of speedy players helped team MEDDAC jump out to a lead they would never let go of the entire game.

"One of our strong points is our quarterback, Gary Moore, and we have good speed on our whole team," said Steve Ford, MEDDAC. "We've got the speed, the teamwork, the old-school players and the young guys, and we have the brains to win."

By the end of the first half, the MEDDAC team led the Iron Rangers by 22 points. The Rangers only score came

when MEDDAC's David Jaeger threw an interception, which was run back for a touchdown by the Iron Rangers. By the end of the half, the score was 28 - 6 in favor of MEDDAC.

In the second half, the Rangers made a few adjustments to help compensate for the mobile MEDDAC quarterback, Moore.

"Their quarterback has been baiting our defensive backs to come in at him straight on, and he would just go laterally to the left or right to his corners and be able to hit a receiver down field," said Takiwa Cobb, Rear Det., 1st Bn., 16th Inf. "We figured if we came at him with a corner back blitz that he wouldn't be expecting it because he is focusing on our DB's."

Those adjustments helped the Iron Rangers to de-flag the nimble Moore on a few occasions but it wasn't enough to help them stop the MEDDAC team from adding more numbers to the scoreboard.

Although the Rangers trailed the entire

game, they never gave up and kept approaching each play with a new plan.

"We have been trying to mix it up a little more than we did in the first half and open up our play book. We are down a few touchdowns; obviously we weren't getting it done in the first half, so we are mixing it up now by showing them some different stuff," said Cobb.

Whatever the Rangers tried, the MEDDAC team was able to counter and keep adding points to the scoreboard.

With every point the MEDDAC team put up on the board, their confidence grew even stronger.

"The other team is bad - real bad. They came to the game, but they didn't show up to play," said Ford.

But it was more than the infantry team having a bad game, it was the MEDDAC team having a good one.

"It's been a good game. We're executing on both sides of the ball — offense and defense, the plays that we've practiced are working," said Garwin Kelly,

MEDDAC. "Our defense is playing good, where they had three interceptions...so overall we're playing real good."

Although the Rangers didn't take a win from the game, they were still able to salvage a learning experience from it.

"We'll do much better next time we play. Due to recent deployments, the team hasn't had a lot of time to practice, but this is a definite learning experience," said Cobb. "The biggest thing I think we learned is to not take anything for granted. We have a lot of natural abilities on this team, but we just need to get the plays down pat. We all know how to play the game; it's just a matter of us learning to gel as a team."

Rangers coach, Dan Walker said, "We need to keep our heads in the game. We're always in the field, and don't get the time to do this type of stuff. This game is teaching us that we have a lot more practicing to do. If we had more practice, we would be a lot better team."

Changing colors of fall foliage complicated process, beautiful to see

By Monte Metzger
DES, Conservation Division

Busy schools and rowdy football crowds hint that autumn is not far away. Brilliant displays of fall foliage will soon accent the cooler weather and shorter days. What causes these changes in leaf color? What produces the wide range of colors we see?

The change in tree leaf color during the fall is a complicated process not yet fully understood by scientists. It is known that leaf color change is related to basic tree metabolism.

Green pigments called chlorophylls convert sunlight, nutrients and water into the energy required by trees to survive and grow. Leaves also contain yellow, orange or brown pigments, called carotenoids, throughout the summer. The green pigment, chlorophyll, masks these colors.

Chlorophyll dominates leaves throughout the growing season. During the fall, chlorophyll production ceases and its green color fades away. Then, the yellows, oranges and browns that were hidden all summer emerge.

The brilliant pinks, reds and purples

associated with fall color originate from another source.

Pigments called anthocyanins form in the cell sap of a few species during the late summer and early fall. Declining chlorophyll production, the resulting sugar breakdown, nutrient transfer and weather conditions combine to produce these pink, red and purple pigments. Sweetgums and maples are trees that produce this type of pigment and exhibit fantastic fall coloration.

Year to year, the quality of fall color varies widely in any region. Peak fall colors occur when the weather is warm and

sunny during the day and cool, but not freezing, at night. Early freezes often kill the leaves and cause them to turn brown to black. Yellow and brown leaf colors are less affected by weather, but red shades are heavily influenced by sun exposure and air temperature during the day and night.

Other factors that affect fall color include moisture, day length, tree genetics, site characteristics, latitude and altitude.

Areas famous for fall color, like New England, contain trees like sugar and red maples. These trees display breathtaking

pinks, reds and purples in great abundance. Most of the native trees in Kansas, like oaks, elms, hackberry, cottonwood and black walnut, exhibit fall colors that are generally yellow, orange or brown.

Brilliant reds and purples can be found locally in shrubs and vines like smooth sumac, Virginia creeper and poison ivy. When combined with the yellows and oranges of local trees, the effect can be quite striking.

Visitors to Fort Riley's woodlands and prairies this fall can expect a hazel landscape splashed with a dramatic rainbow of color.



Commentary

Monday Night Football -- No one likes to be embarrassed on TV

By Kevin Doheny
19th PAD

Some people take off of work early to watch it. Some people adjust their whole day around it,

and for others, it's a good excuse to have a few with the boys at the local watering hole.

Whether it is the lights of the stadiums or the brisk Monday night air, fans of professional

football turn their attention to only one thing on Mondays — football.

Why are Monday Night Football games so anticipated? There are a multitude of rea-

sons why the pageantry and hard-hitting action attracts fans to these games and keep them glued to their televisions like a five-year old watching Saturday morning cartoons.

Every year, the schedule makers try to give the better of the games to the MNF viewing audience, but it doesn't always happen. It doesn't matter what the records are when teams match-up to play each other. Most of the time, teams sack-up when they realize they have the entire country's attention. No one wants to lose on national television.

When the schedule makers get it right, they get it right.

For example, look at this year's games so far. The first MNF game of the year was a rematch of the NFC Championship game.

If there is any doubt why MNF is spectacular, look back at the Sept. 15 game. I'm sure most fans said they wouldn't watch Dallas at New York. Really, why would they? A much maligned Quincy Carter versus a tough Giant defense. Most people probably predicted a 20-6 game, at best. A slow-paced, turnover plagued game where most would have to prop their eye lids open so they didn't fall asleep just to watch it.

Fans who stayed around long enough and those who didn't go to bed early Monday night, saw one of the best MNF games of all times.

That Monday night was the best example of why MNF is a main attraction.

Story line — Bill Parcels

returns to New York where he won two Super Bowl titles. You wanted points, how about 67 of them. Comebacks, Giants score 18 unanswered in the final quarter to take a three-point lead with just 11 seconds left. Then, the miracle happened. The Cowboys get the ball on the 40-yard line and complete a pass to give their once skitish kicker a shot at a long, game-tying field goal. He makes the longest field goal in his career with time elapsing. This kicker, who became a man in one night, was the same guy who one week earlier missed an extra point and a chip-shot field goal. Overtimes — the game had that too.

After both teams trade punts back and forth, Dallas puts together a decent drive and hits the game winning and NFL record-tying 7th field goal of the night.

Whether it's championship game rematches or thrillers which last into the wee hours of the morning, MNF puts together the best show in all of professional sports. Every week might not be a barnburner, but you can guarantee that in the game you watch the players will give everything they have. Like I said, no one likes to be embarrassed on national television. Just ask the Oakland Raiders.

Troopers beat Solomon for first win of season

By William Biles
Staff Writer

A speedy offense and an aggressive defense helped lead the 8th grade Fort Riley Troopers to their first win of the season. They beat the Solomon Junior High Gorillas by a score of 20-6 at Fort Riley Sept. 16.

DeAndre Simmons started the scoring for the Troopers, on their first possession, with a burst of speed that helped him to blow by the Gorillas' defensive line, their secondary line and into the end zone for the first of his two touchdowns.

"We have some good speed on this team that allows us to get to the outside, which is what gets us the points and it is what we will be using the rest of the year," said Jimmy Goheen, coach, Fort Riley Troopers. "He (Simmons) has some speed, he can hit the corner and he is a good leader in the huddle as a quarterback."

The Gorillas answered back on their first possession, tying the game at 6-6, but those were all the points the Solomon team mustered due to a strong Trooper defense led by Boyce Banks and Caprest Rhone.

"Boyce plays really aggressive at linebacker, and that's what it takes. He is all over the field and can get to the ball well," said Goheen. "Our defensive linemen were getting good penetration, so they're taking up the other team's blockers, and our linebackers can flow. That is when Boyce and Caprest are at their best, they are able to flow

and make plays," he said. "That's what they were doing today, and the other team wasn't able to run on us today."

The Trooper defense was able to effectively shut down the Gorillas' offense, and was able to score a safety as well.

"What I liked about the defense today was their pursuing of their ball handlers. A lot of times we didn't have the first guy make the tackle, but we had two or three guys follow up and make the play," said Goheen. "They played real hard and with a lot of heart. I think with these kinds of numbers (players on team) you get tired, and that is where heart shows up and helped to keep them (Solomon) from scoring."

With all of the game's scoring finished in the third quarter, the Troopers were able to coast through a scoreless fourth and to their first win of the season.

"Just getting these guys a win is the games highlight," Goheen said. "Now they know what it feels like, they know what their hard work can do — they've been working real hard for the last few weeks of practice."

The coach hopes this win will give the team the boost they need to win more games throughout the rest of the season.

"Hopefully this win will help build confidence in themselves. We have two more games in the next week, and hopefully that confidence will build, because I like to see the look on their faces when they win and do well," said Goheen.



Post/Biles

Caprest Rhone, runningback, Troopers, cuts the outside corner to gain some yardage during a football game against the Solomon Junior High School Gorillas.

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September 26, 2003

Port Riley Post

Page 13

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Page 14

Fort Riley Post

September 26, 2003

ITR

The Information, Ticketing and Registration office is located in building 6918, across from the PX. The hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and the office is closed on federal holidays. For further information, call ITR, 239-5614 or 239-4415. Check out the Department of Army Leisure Travel website at www.offdutytravel.com for more great deals on travel.

ITR services and discount attractions tickets are available to active duty military, retirees, National Guard, reservists, Department of Army Civilians and family members.

Orlando Vacation?

Stop by ITR for hotel accommodations at military discounts in Orlando. Stay at the Lake Buena Vista Resort Hotel or Travelodge Hotel Main Gate East for only \$34 per night, with the 3rd night free! Hotels offer free shuttle service to Sea World, Universal Studios and Disney World. Let ITR put together a package.

Union Station/Science City

Union Station and Science City in Kansas City - Imagine a city like no other in the world. A thriving metropolis that combines adventure, entertainment, discovery and excitement. The new exhibit "The Lost Spacecraft Liberty Bell 7 Recovered" is display Sep 26 thru Jan 4. Liberty 7 was America's second manned space mission. It sat on the ocean floor for 38 years, until it was located and discovered in 1999 by a Discovery Channel expedition. Now you can see the recovered spacecraft and experience first-hand the excitement associated with early space flight. Discount tickets available through ITR.

Kansas City Wizards

The Kansas City Wizards are having a Military Appreciation Salute Oct. 18, 7 p.m. There will be over 200 giveaway items for fans attending the game that night! Stay after the game to

enjoy a spectacular fireworks display. Each service branch will have displays in "Soccer Street." Free soccer games, inflatables and live music will be 5-7 p.m. Discount tickets are available through ITR.

Barney's Colorful World

Barney's Colorful World will perform at Bicentennial Center, Salina, Oct. 14 and 15. Tickets are now available at ITR. All seats reserved for \$23.50 and \$16.50 (\$5.75 per ticket handling charge).

Renaissance Festival

The Renaissance Festival of Kansas City is a step back into time, when lords and ladies ruled the land and when knights clad in shining armor took to battle for a lady's honor. It is where jesters, minstrels and rogues entertained throughout the village in hopes of a day's wages. All this and more can be found at the Renaissance Festival, weekends only. The Festival runs for seven glorious weekends each autumn featuring

a different theme each weekend. The adventure begins Labor Day weekend in Bonner Springs...just minutes and 500 years from downtown Kansas City. Discount tickets are available through ITR.

Worlds of Fun

Mortals beware of a new era of scare every Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 20 - Oct. 26. Worlds of Fun will be transformed for HalloWeekends — a frightening festival of new thrills and chills. Mischievous ghouls will materialize on the midway and the park will be decked out in its most fearful finery ever to celebrate a season of haunts. HalloWeekends is a Boo! blast for the entire family. Trick-or-Treat town is a make-believe street where little ghosts are treated to goodies as they stop by the storefronts.

Worlds of Fun will be open weekends only through Oct. 26. Discount tickets are available through ITR.

"Sarge" claims second straight victory

Army News Service

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The U.S. Army Racing Team had a Cinderella ending to the rain-delayed O'Reilly Mid-South Nationals at Memphis Motorsports Park Sept. 22.

Tony "The Sarge" Schumacher, who endured a crash in qualifying Sept. 19, came back to secure the Top Fuel crown with a win over Larry Dixon. It was his second straight victory.

Schumacher, who has been nursing a sore knee since his crash, piloted his U.S. Army Top Fuel dragster to wins over David Grubnic, Clay Millican and Doug Kalitta, before disposing of Dixon with a stellar 4.581-second pass at 317.79 mph.

"This was just a superb job by the Army team," said Schumacher. "To be able to put aside the crash Friday night and go out and win the race is really something. This team stayed focused on the job that had to be done."

"We lost a great race car Friday night, but I guess we pulled out another great race car. Alan Johnson (crew chief) is truly a master. I'm certainly glad he's in our corner."

After recording his third victory of the season, the 1999 Top Fuel world champion moved to within a point of third-place Darrell Russell with five races remaining in the 2003 season.

"Obviously, we want that third-place spot, but we want to win as many races as we can the rest of the way," added Schumacher. "We're trying to set the table for next year."

The NHRA POWERade Drag Racing Series moves to Route 66 Raceway in Joliet, Ill., this weekend for the CARQUEST Auto Parts Nationals. The Top Fuelers will compete, while the Pro Stock Bikes will wait two weeks to return to Reading, Pa. for the postponed Lucas Oil Nationals.

10-Miler continued from page 11

nity to be one of the few that have been selected for the team here at Fort Riley, and it is a very proud moment. I am the only reservist on the team, and that makes it a once in a lifetime opportunity. I feel, for me," he said.

Normally, reservists would not run on an active duty team. However, due to current world events, Slimp is considered active duty.

The runners expect to see a lot of good competition, regardless of the number of deployments Army wide.

"I don't think the competition will be any less this year (due to deployments),

because there are so many competitive people out there. Posts like Fort Bragg will send four or five teams — each battalion will try to send a team — so I think it will still be a very healthy competition," Taylor said.

Although Taylor is expecting good competition, she also expects there won't be as many soldiers as there will be civilians running in the race this year.

"I think the field will be a lot smaller this year, as far as military participants verses civilian participants in the race, but I know everyone there will give everything they have ... and continue to

show their pride," she said.

They are also looking forward to the camaraderie the race inspires amongst runners and spectators alike.

"I am pretty excited to go there, just for the camaraderie. They cap out the registration at 18,000 runners, and I would say about 12 or 13,000 of them would be military runners," Blanton said of past races. "All along the way (throughout the race) you have people in Army uniforms cheering you on - handing you water. It's a big road race centered around the Army, and it's a real

exciting feeling having the support of all the Army people there, helping you out and cheering you on — people you don't know with the one common bond of being in the Army," he said.

Adams spoke of the camaraderie as well as what motivates him to run.

"I am motivated for this race because I love to run, and the camaraderie at the Army 10-Miler is great. You have 18,000 runners, and you usually run into 20 or so people that you have run with in the past, and that gives me a good feeling. It's really good for morale," he said. "This

will be my fourth time running, and each time I try to get a little bit faster, and so far I have been able to do so. I am really looking forward to it."

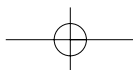
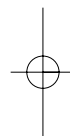
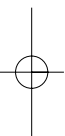
Collectively, the team members feel the same about winning the race.

"It really would be the ultimate achievement to win this race. There are a lot of competitive runners who are Olympic caliber runners at this race. To some of them, their sole job is to run. To beat one of those guys would make it a really good day, to say the least," Blanton said.

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